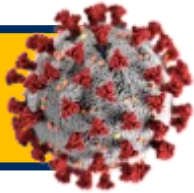


65 Clyde Ave | Buffalo, NY 14215

OUR RESPONSE TO
COVID-19



The MJA Company prides itself on a strong company focus on safety. Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic was made easier in part due to our long standing practice of strict adherence to respiratory protection protocols for silica safety. We continue to follow the latest federal, state, and local guidance and protocols to protect both our employees and the customers that rely on us to complete their projects in a timely manner.

In this issue:

- Steps to Repair Cracks
- Sometimes Cracks Happen
- MJA Project Watch
- Win a \$100 Gift Card

Win a \$100 Gift Card

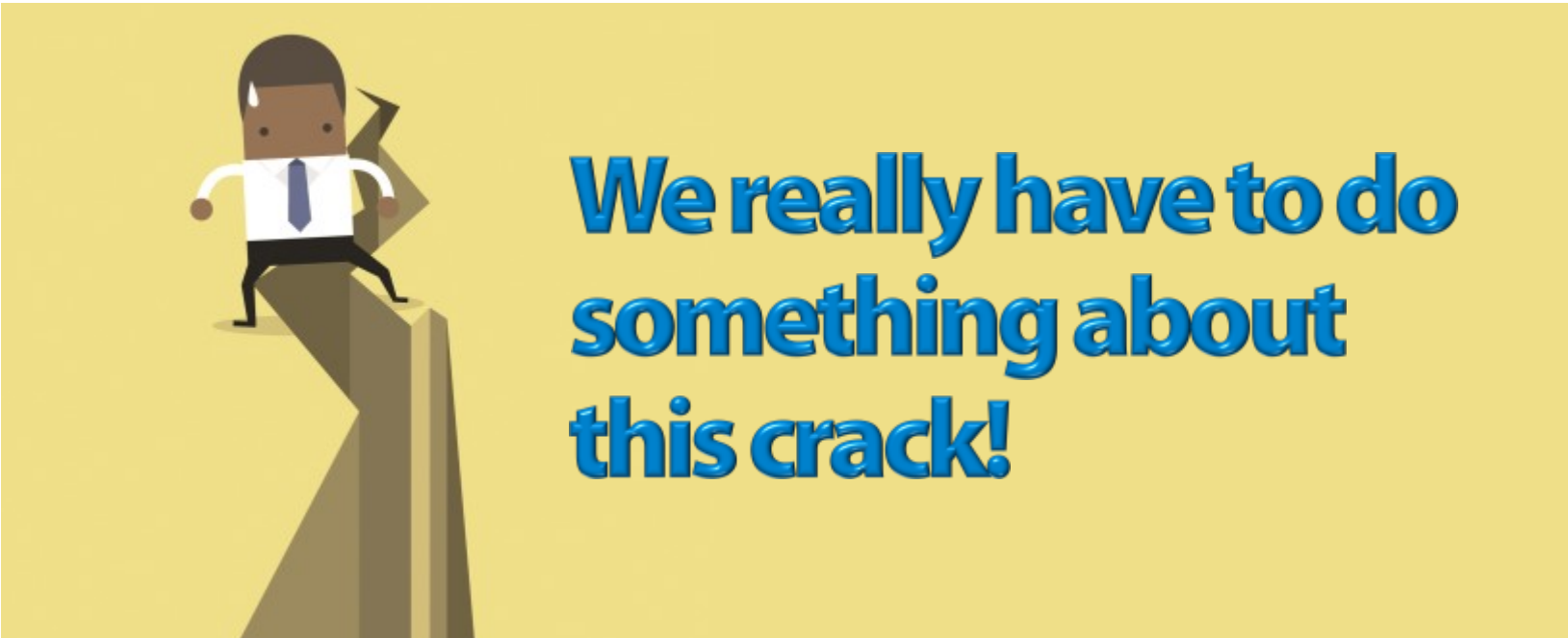
Name This Park
What state park in WNY is the home of this theater?



Enter to win at www.themjacompany.com/promo
Contest ends March 15, 2021

Previous Answer & Winner
Answer to the contest in the last newsletter: **Maid of the Mist**
Previous winner: **Colleen P. of FFAE Architects**

No purchase necessary. Must be at least 18 years of age and a legal resident of the USA to enter.



Overview

In our last newsletter we discussed the two most common causes of cracks in concrete and the steps that can be taken to reduce the chances of cracks forming in a new concrete slab. The next thing to do is to explain what to do with a crack if it does appear. Why even worry about a crack? How bad can it get if you just let it go?

The biggest concern about a crack is that the edges can break away either as a chunk of concrete or more slowly as small pieces. In either case, the crack will widen and get worse. In this article, we will discuss the step-by-step process that is used to evaluate and repair a crack in both new and old concrete floors.



If left untreated, cacks can get pretty bad

It is important to know that repairing a crack is not just a matter of filling in the void that the crack has created. Cracks come in many forms, each of them with their own characteristics. In the repair process there has to be a wide range of tools, materials, and methodologies for the repair.

Step 1

The first element in this process is evaluating the causes of the crack and determining if those forces are still acting on the slab.

If the crack is not stable and a repair is done, it will likely fail, creating a need for (and cost of) a second repair in the future. For example, if the slab is still quite new it may still be shrinking. There is no way to stabilize the slab and the best option is to wait before you do the repair.



Avongard Standard Tell-Tale Crack Monitor can check for crack movement

During the evaluation of the crack, the contractor may find that the crack is a symptom of a much bigger problem. In that case, there must be a conversation between the owner and the contractor to determine the best course of action. In other cases it is possible to stabilize the crack and allow for the repair of the crack to proceed.

Step 2

The second step in the process has two parts. The first part is to evaluate the concrete damage and determine how to prepare the crack for the repair. The second part is to determine the best material to complete the repair.



Sometimes the repair doesn't take a lot of preparation

Continued on next page

Continued from cover page

Often, random cracks have to be chased with a saw or grinder to open them up and clean out loose material and weak areas of concrete that has cracked away from the slab.



Chasing a crack in preparation for repair

In some cases, the repair is much worse and the preparation is much more extensive.



Prepping a wider area for a larger crack repair

In either case the preparation has to be sufficient to make sure the material that is chosen for the repair will hold up under the traffic that is expected on the floor.

Step 3

The next step is to fill the crack with the proper material for the repair.

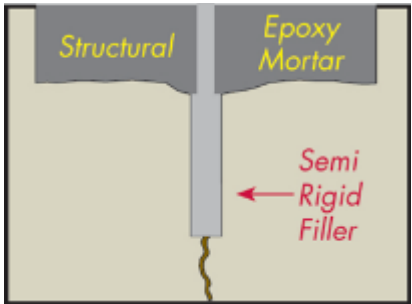


Filling the crack with the proper material for the repair



A completed repair

Depending on the nature of the crack, just filling it may not be enough. Provisions have to be made to honor the crack below the repair. To do this, the crack repair is cut and a second semi-rigid material is used to allow for slight movements due to expansion and contraction of the slab.



A profile of a repaired joint that allows for slight movement

Step 4

The final step in the process is to finish the repair so it is smooth and even with the surface that surrounds it.



Grinding the repair surface to be even with the surrounding surface

As you have seen, crack repair is not just filling the void created. A thoughtful, measured approach is the only way to get a repair that will last long term.

Need Help With Cracks

If you have any questions or if we can help you with a crack repair problem, give us a call at **716-831-7091** or email us at info@themjaccompany.com.

Final Segment

In the next issue of our newsletter, the third and final article in this series will discuss surface repair for a deteriorated section of a concrete slab.

**Images courtesy of Metzger/McGuire Co.*

SOMETIMES CRACKS HAPPEN

Big, small, new, or old —
no matter what kind of
crack you have in your
concrete floor...

The MJA Company can help.



Springville-Griffith Institute CSD

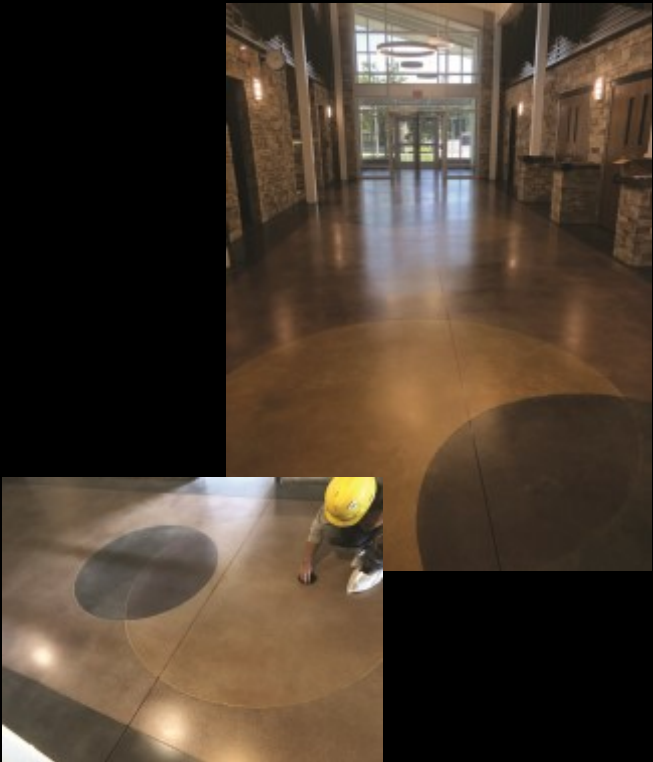
P-Tech Academy addition

Springville, NY

5900 sq. ft. of polished and dyed concrete with sawcut joints filled to match the dyed concrete

Created Unique Floor Designs

18 individual Venn diagram designs laid out and dyed in the floor



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- Concrete Leveling
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- Design Consultation
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